

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

JAN 03 2005

Applicant: Ralph de la Torre

Group Art Unit: 3732

Serial No.: 10/666,707

Examiner: David A. Bonderer

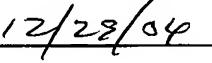
Filed: 19 SEP 2003

Attorney Docket: MED-019

Title: Pericardial Retractor

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on this day with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

 David S. Jacobson

 Date

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

This is a timely reply to an Office Action dated December 10, 2004. As no claims have been added, and no extension fee is required, no fees are enclosed herewith. If any additional fee is due, please charge the fee to deposit account no. 07-1732.

ELECTION WITH TRAVERSE

The applicant provisionally elects to prosecute invention I, species A, but traverses the requirement as set out below in the remarks section.